



**Colonel Charlie Costanza**  
**Commander of 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division**

Colonel Charlie Costanza is a 1991 graduate of the United States Military Academy. Upon completion of the Armor Officer Basic Course and Ranger School, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment at Fort Irwin, California, where he served as a tank platoon leader, tank company executive officer, and scout platoon leader.

Following the completion of the Infantry Officer Advanced Course at Fort Benning, Georgia, he was assigned to 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment, where he served as a tank company commander; Regimental Headquarters and Headquarters troop commander and regimental plans officer. Captain Costanza deployed to Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina, as part of Stabilization Force-7 (SFOR-7) in 2000 under the Texas Army National Guard's 49th Armored Division.

After completing the Command and General Staff College and the School of Advanced Military Science at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, he was assigned in June 2003 to Combined Joint Task Force-7 (CJTF-7) in Baghdad, Iraq, where he served as a CJTF plans officer. Upon redeployment from Operation Iraqi Freedom I (OIF I), he was assigned to 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment in Buedingen, Germany, where he served as a squadron operations officer and squadron executive officer.

From January 2006 to July 2007, he served as the aide-de-camp to the commanding general, Multi-National Security Transition Command – Iraq / NATO Training Mission –Iraq in Baghdad, Iraq. He then assumed command of 1st Squadron, 7th Cavalry Regiment “GARRYOWEN,” the Reconnaissance Squadron for 1st Heavy Brigade Combat Team “Ironhorse,” 1st Cavalry Division in April 2008. After training for twelve months at Fort Hood and the National Training Center in California, the squadron deployed to Iraq from January 2009 to January 2010, where they assumed joint responsibility for Hussinaya, Iraq, Northeast Baghdad with the Iraqi 2nd Brigade, 1st Federal Police Division. After returning from Iraq he served as

the armor branch chief, Office of Personnel Management Division (OPMD), Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, Kentucky, where he was responsible for the professional development and management of the Army's 3,900 armor officers. Most recently he attended Texas A&M University as a War College Fellow.

Colonel Costanza holds a Bachelor of Science from the United States Military Academy; a Master of Arts in Military Studies from American Military University; and a Master of Military Art and Science from the Command and General Staff College. Colonel Costanza's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, the Meritorious Service Medal with silver oak leaf cluster, the Iraq Campaign Medal with three bronze stars, the Combat Action Badge, the Parachutist Badge, and the Ranger Tab.